

Montevue Hospital Complex
F-3-188
Frederick
ca. 1870-1961
Public

Capsule Summary

The Montevue Hospital Complex comprises nine outbuildings related to the Frederick County almshouse, an institution that operated on the property from 1832 to 1987. The main building was constructed in 1870 and demolished in 1987. The surviving buildings include utilitarian support buildings: the Dairy/Springhouse (ca. 1860); the Bake House (ca. 1870); the Storage Cellar (ca. 1934); the Boiler House (ca. 1870); the Dead House (1879) and Potter's Field (ca. 1830-1935); the Laundry (1879; ca. 1961); the Extension Service Building, originally the Tramp House or Colored Hospital (ca. 1892-1897; ca. 1911; ca. 1934; ca. 1961; ca. 1995); Poultry Barn (1925); and, the Dairy Herd Improvement Association, originally a Dairy (ca. 1930-1934; ca. 1961). Beginning ca. 1961, the county converted most of the Montevue Hospital Complex outbuildings to new uses, and added more buildings to the property. Ten post-1961 buildings and structures, most not related to the almshouse, now occupy the property.

The Montevue Hospital Complex represented a local government response to the housing needs of poor and other needy citizens of Frederick County. The county-run institution offered shelter, detention, and work to society's castoffs. Residents at Montevue included the indigent, the mentally ill, and the region's transients or "tramps."

Of the surviving support buildings at Montevue Hospital Complex, only the Dead House and the Potter's Field appear to possess the qualities of local significance for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The remaining buildings have been altered heavily, and each lacks integrity on an individual basis. The surviving buildings do not form a coherent district without the dominant Victorian-style Montevue Hospital (removed in 1987). The absence of the originating spatial and historical focal-point diminishes the integrity of a potential district.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-3-188

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Montevue Hospital Complex
other Montevue Home, Frederick County Almshouse

2. Location

street and number 350 Montevue Lane not for publication
city, town Frederick vicinity
county Frederick

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Frederick County Commissioners
street and number Winchester Hall, 12 East Church Street telephone
city, town Frederick state MD zip code 21701

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber JS30 folio 157
city, town Frederick tax map 419 tax parcel 2079 tax ID number 046164

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other:

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	Contributing 1
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> defense	Noncontributing 13 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	Contributing 1
		<input type="checkbox"/> education	Noncontributing 0 sites
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> funerary	Contributing 0
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	Noncontributing 1 structures
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> health care	Contributing 0
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	Noncontributing 0 objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	Contributing 2
			Noncontributing 14 Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
0

7. Description

Inventory No. F-3-188

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Summary Description

The Montevue Hospital Complex comprises nine outbuildings related to the Frederick County almshouse, an institution that operated on the property from 1832 to 1987. The complex, which was constructed between ca. 1860 and ca. 1934, occupies a tract of land located west of Rosemont Avenue and south of Montevue Lane in the north part of Frederick. The main building of the complex was constructed in 1870 and demolished in 1987.

The almshouse was a county-run institution of shelter, detention, and work established to house society's castoffs. Residents, most of whom lived at Montevue only temporarily, included the indigent, the mentally ill, and the region's transients or "tramps." The first almshouse building was constructed on the site in 1831-1832 and is no longer extant. The earliest building in the complex is the Dairy/Springhouse (ca. 1860) that was associated with farming operations. The second almshouse complex on the site was constructed in 1870 and was the first institution on the site to be called Montevue Hospital. Eight outbuildings were constructed to support the residential main building, the county farm, and other county functions. The complex comprises the Department of Agriculture Laboratory, originally the Bake House (ca. 1870); the Storage Cellar (ca. 1934); the Boiler House (ca. 1870); the Dead House (1879) and Potter's Field (ca. 1830-1935); the Laundry (1879; ca. 1961); the Extension Service Building, originally the Tramp House or Colored Hospital (ca. 1892-1897; ca. 1911; ca. 1934; ca. 1961; ca. 1995); Poultry Barn (1925); and, the Dairy Herd Improvement Association, originally a Dairy (ca. 1930-1934; ca. 1961). Beginning ca. 1961, the county converted most of the Montevue Hospital Complex outbuildings to new uses, and added more buildings to the property. Ten post-1961 buildings and structures, most not related to the almshouse, now occupy the property. In 1987, the main building of Montevue Hospital (1870) was demolished and its residents moved to a new Montevue Home on the north side of Montevue Lane. The building's site is currently a parking lot. Some asphalt and four trees remain from a treelined drive that led east from the main building to Rosemont Avenue.

The Montevue Hospital Complex

1. Dairy (ca. 1860) - The building was built as a dairy and springhouse for the institution and its farm. The building stands near a spring about 140 feet west of the complex. The building is listed in an 1868 inventory of buildings (Inventory in Minutes 1868). The two-story, one-bay, brick building adopts a rectangular footprint and faces east. The building is constructed of common-bond brick. Each facade opening features a wood lintel. Openings contain wood-sash windows. A moderately-pitched, front-gabled roof clad in standing-seam metal roofing terminates the building.

Each of the building's facades is bilaterally symmetrical. The building's front (east) facade features an entrance containing a vertical-board, wood door. The entrance opening is lined with a concrete sill. A second entrance occupies the lower level of the south facade. Other openings contain wood-sash windows.

The building's single-cell first level draws water from a spring that emerges in the vicinity of the building. Flowing southwest, the spring takes the form of a small stream before entering Carroll Creek. Low, stepped brick walls with concrete copings surround the building on the north, west, and south sides. The walls create a series of compartments north and south of the dairy.

A recent, open shed stands southwest of the dairy on a concrete pad. The shed is used as a fish hatchery. The open shed comprises wood posts supporting a gabled roof clad in corrugated plastic. The shed measures two bays wide and three bays long. The building's poured concrete pad encloses a recessed pool.

The dairy served the farming activities of the county almshouse and appears on Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Maps of 1897 and 1904 with the label "dairy." The maps indicate that the dairy's spring fed a pond about 285 feet southeast of the spring house. The stream leading to the pond was lined on its east side by a stone wall three feet high. The almshouse

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harvested ice from the pond, which apparently was infilled in 1959. The spring branch also was straightened and widened in 1959 (Yenger 1959). The dairy, and possibly the adjacent shed, served later as a county fish hatchery (Yunker 2001).

The Dairy (ca. 1860) represents a building type found commonly on local farms. The building has been altered heavily and no longer retains integrity of form or setting.

2. Department of Agriculture Laboratory (ca. 1870, ca. 1892-1897; ca. 1961)- The building was constructed in two main phases as the Bake House and Meat House of Montevue. Smaller, later additions were constructed during the building's ca. 1961 conversion to the state's agricultural laboratory.

The two-story, brick building stands near the center of the Montevue Hospital Complex and faces east, toward the site of the 1870 main Montevue Hospital building (removed 1987). The laboratory building is two bays wide and seven bays deep, and occupies an irregular footprint. A brick and stone foundation supports the building, which is composed of common-bond brick. Openings feature six-over-six-light, wood-sash windows. A moderately-pitched, front-gabled roof clad in asphalt shingles terminates the building. The building lacks any exterior chimneys.

The earliest portion of the building (ca. 1870) is the east end. This rectangular main block is three bays deep and appears on Sanborn Maps of 1887 labeled "Bakery." Maps indicate an oven (not extant) within the main block. The building is supported by a brick foundation. Window openings feature wood lintels throughout, with a combination of wood sills and replacement brick sills. The elaborated cornice of the main block features wood dentils and gable returns. The front (east) facade of the building contains two window openings. Disturbances to the brickwork indicate that the northern opening may have contained a door.

The interior of the main block of the building features recent (ca. 1961) finishes. These finishes are continuous throughout the building and additions, and comprise linoleum floors, ceramic tile block walls, metal door frames, and acoustical-tile ceilings. The building's first level features two wood freezer doors on the north side that provide access to a cold storage addition (ca. 1961). A space about two feet deep at the east end of the building is distinguished by a tiled valence and features a raised floor level. Recent sink and counter units line the walls of the main room of the main block. Recent ca. 1961 partitions enclose an office space on the first level and office and restroom spaces on the second level. The second level of the building is reached by a stair (ca. 1961) inside a later addition. No original stair remains.

Several expansions dating from two or more periods have been added to the main building. The western end of the building comprises a four-bay addition that was constructed ca. 1892-1897 and is connected with a contemporary brick hyphen. Sanborn maps indicate that this addition contained a meat house and two rendering kettles (not extant). The gable-roofed addition is supported by a rubble stone foundation. The addition features a later, one-story, wood-frame, entrance vestibule on its north facade. The vestibule is glazed and terminates in a flat roof. The vestibule's entry opening contains a six-light, two-panel wood door. Brickwork surmounting a remaining opening in the south facade of the addition indicates that the opening originally featured a segmental arch.

Two peripheral additions to the building apparently date from its ca. 1961 conversion into the State Livestock Sanitary Service Laboratory. A two-story, two-bay, storage addition was added to the north facade of the main block of the building. The flat-roofed addition features a ground-floor utility entrance in its north facade. The addition comprises two ground-level refrigerated storage spaces reached from inside the main block of the building. The second level of the addition comprises a circulation space that gives access to the upper level of the main block. Part of the addition is a flat-roofed stair bump-up constructed to accommodate this stair. A one-story, entrance and office addition also was attached to the south facade of the

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building. The addition is located at the western end of the building and measures one bay wide and two bays deep. The addition terminates in a flat roof. A six-light over three-panel entry door occupies the east facade of the addition.

The three-bay main block of the building was constructed as a Bake House to supply Montevue. The later Meat House addition extended the building by four bays. The County converted the building to a new function ca. 1961, installing the State Livestock Sanitary Service Laboratory ("The New Montevue" 1962). A sign on the building indicates that the laboratory later was called the Diagnostic Laboratory of the Maryland Department of Animal Health, a function that occupied the building into the late-twentieth century. The building currently serves as a storage building. Because the major ca. 1961 alterations mask or obliterate the nineteenth-century exterior form and interior materials of the building, the Department of Agriculture Laboratory appears to lack sufficient physical integrity.

3. Storage Cellar (ca. 1934) - The below-ground building was built as a storage cellar near the southwest corner of the complex. The one-by-three bay, rectangular-plan cellar faces southeast and is roofed by a tar-covered concrete slab set at ground level. The terrain around the cellar slopes downward to the south and west, revealing the building's front (southeast) and southwest facades. The asymmetrical front (southeast) facade contains a single opening: a modern angled metal double door flanked by sloping cheek walls. Openings in the building's three-bay southwest facade contain metal screens set in wood frames. Cast concrete sills also remain in the window openings. The interior of the concrete-lined cellar features a two-cell plan. The Dairy Herd Improvement Association used the space for storage (Davis 2001). The County currently stores highway weed-control chemicals in the cellar.

The Storage Cellar is a utilitarian building found commonly in agricultural properties. A close examination of the Sanborn Fire Insurance Company maps indicate that the present building was not constructed in the same location as the earlier ice house that served as an outbuilding to the main hospital. What little external appearance the building possesses exhibits alterations to the principal entrance. The Storage Cellar appears to lack sufficient integrity.

4. Boiler House (ca. 1870)- The Engine House or Boiler House was constructed to furnish Montevue Hospital with steam heat. The building stands behind or west of the site of the main building (1870, removed 1987). The Boiler House retains its stack.

The one-story building occupies a rectangular footprint and is supported by a brick foundation. The building's walls are composed of brick laid in six-row common bond. The tops of the building's jack-arched openings have been lowered with metal lintels supporting brick infill. The openings also feature concrete replacement sills. Openings contain two-over-one-light, wood-sash windows. The building terminates in a moderately-pitched, side-gabled roof. The roof features boxed eaves and is clad in standing-seam metal roofing. A large, recent metal vent occupies the center of the roof ridge.

An exterior, gable-end stack is integrated with the brickwork of the west end of the building. The tapered, square-section stack occupies a square footprint and features a decorative brick crown in deteriorated condition. West of the stack is a later, open shed used for fuel storage. The shed's concrete pad supports six metal poles that support a flat, wood-frame roof.

The asymmetrical, two-bay front (east) facade of the Boiler House features an entrance located off-center to south. The entrance contains a single, vertical-board, wood door. The building's three-bay north facade is bilaterally symmetrical and features a central entrance containing a plywood door.

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The interior of the building consists of two unequal rooms separated by a concrete-block partition. The east room features a recessed, concrete-lined pit for steam lines at the east wall. The room is used for storage. The west room contains an oil-fired furnace (1958). No ceiling is present inside the Boiler House.

The Boiler House was constructed to heat Montevue Hospital (1870). The building originally contained two coal-fired boilers. A gas furnace later replaced the coal furnace. In 1958, the County installed the oil furnace that currently exists (Tom Blickenstaff, in Davis 2001).

The Boiler House represents a common industrial and institutional building type of the late-nineteenth century. The utilitarian building does not exhibit notable architectural detailing or construction techniques. The building has been altered heavily, and the doors, windows, lintels, and sills consist of replacement fabric. The heating equipment currently inside the building is less than fifty years old. The building appears to lack sufficient physical integrity for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

5. Dead House (1879) and Potter's Field (ca. 1832-1920)- The morgue known as the Dead House or Death House was built near the southeast corner of the Montevue complex. The building stands at the north end of the Potter's Field, with which it is associated. "Death House" is a phrase used during the nineteenth century to describe a cemetery morgue; a "Potter's Field" is a cemetery where unclaimed bodies are buried in unmarked graves.

The small, one-story, brick Dead House faces west toward a gravel lot. The building adopts a rectangular footprint and is supported by a rubble stone foundation. The building's walls comprise brick laid in nine-row common bond and terminate in a molded brick cornice. The building terminates in a moderately-pitched, hipped roof clad in asphalt shingles.

The building's front (west) facade is pierced by a door opening with a wood lintel and sill; the door is missing. Openings in the side and rear facades of the Dead House contain double-four-light, wood-sash, horizontally-sliding windows. The windows have wood lintels and sills. The building features wood shutters with two types of metal stops. The walls and ceiling of the building's single-cell interior are finished in plaster. Interior trim consists of simple wood surrounds. The building appears to have been damaged by fire; the roof is open to the elements.

The purpose of the Dead House was to house temporarily the unclaimed bodies of deceased residents. The institution's morgue was the site where bodies were prepared for interment in the Potter's Field (Thomas 1987). Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Maps through 1934 identified the building as a morgue. A map updated in 1964 described the building as "feed storage."

The Potter's Field is located south of the building, at the south end of the almshouse complex. The cemetery of the institution likely began soon after residents moved to the site in 1832. The Death House was built in 1879 (Board 1879b). The field may still have been in use when the institution ordered a set of coffins in 1929. One observer noted in 1959 that the field was being abandoned, i.e. that maintenance was ending (Mrs. Ruth King, clerk for Montevue Superintendent Schell, cited in Yenger 1959). The field may contain upwards of 1200 burials based on a compilation of available fragmented records. Montevue records show that an average of 10 people per year were buried in the cemetery between 1832 and 1956. The age of the dead averaged 53 years and ranged from stillbirths to 110-year-olds. Some of those buried were executed criminals or people otherwise unassociated with the almshouse (Montevue Death Record 1871-1913).

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A sandstone funerary monument (ca. 1960-1963) stands at the north end of the field. The monument is inscribed on its north side "MEMORY / POTTER-FIELD." The monument was funded by then-Superintendent Robert Schell, Raymond Creager, and Carroll Kehne (Davis 2001).

The Dead House and Potter's Field appear to possess the qualities of local significance for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as an example of a morgue and cemetery associated with a county-run social institution.

6. Laundry (1879; ca. 1961)- The building was constructed as the Wash House or Laundry for the almshouse and is located in the northeast part of the complex (Board 1879a). The building comprises a two-story, brick main block (1879) and a one-story, concrete-block addition (ca. 1961).

The main block of the L-shaped building faces south. A rubble stone foundation supports the building. The building is composed of common-bond brick with replacement brick sills and wood lintels. Openings contain six-over-six-light, wood-sash, replacement windows. The building features a corbelled brick cornice. A moderately-pitched, front-gabled roof sheathed in asphalt shingles terminates the building. An interior, gable-end chimney punctuates the west end of the building's roofline.

The two-bay front (east) facade of the main block of the Laundry is bilaterally symmetrical. The central entrance contains a two-light, two-panel, wood door. The facade features a pent-roofed, frame awning (ca. 1961) that also extends the width of the facade, including the addition to the north. The building's three-bay south facade also is bilaterally symmetrical; the central bay has been infilled with brick.

The main block of the building adopts a single-cell plan. Opposite the entrance is a broad, infilled fireplace. An opening in the north wall leads to a storage room located in the ca. 1961 ell. A metal ladder in the southeast corner of the Laundry's main block provides access to the building's upper level. Ceiling laths and some ceiling framing are visible above the second level. Most interior finishes within the main block of the building are recent.

A one-story, concrete-block addition is attached to the north facade of the Laundry. The addition was constructed ca. 1961 when Frederick County brought the laundry operations of the county jail to join the existing Montevue laundry (Davis 2001; "The New Montevue" 1962). The two-bay-wide addition occupies a rectangular footprint and is supported by a concrete-block foundation. The two-bay front (east) facade is the addition features an off-center entrance that contains a four-light-over-three-panel, wood door. A painted wood sign hanging above the entrance reads "Laundry." A two-level, flat roof terminates the addition; the higher portion of the roof is adjacent the main block of the laundry. The interior of the addition comprises two rooms, one accessible only from within the adjacent main block of the Laundry. The rooms are currently used for storage.

The building appears to lack sufficient integrity since the major concrete-block addition (ca. 1961) doubled the original footprint of the building. The building's windows and roof sheathing also are composed of replacement materials.

7. Extension Service Building (ca. 1892-1897, ca. 1911; 1934; ca. 1961; ca. 1995)- The building is located on the west side of the complex and faces northeast toward an asphalt driveway. The building was expanded to the north in 1911. In 1934, the south wing of the building was removed and the building extensively remodeled to accommodate an emergency hospital. The building has housed a number of functions related to the operation of the almshouse and the county.

The two-and-a-half-story building occupies a rectangular footprint with a projecting entrance pavilion. A rubble stone foundation supports the building. The building is composed of seven-row, common-bond brick. The building is fifteen bays long and four bays deep. Each of the building's segmental-arched window openings features a metal-sheathed sill. One-over-

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one-light, vinyl replacement windows occupy the window openings. Several openings on the building's rear (southwest) facade have been infilled with brick. The building's front and rear walls terminate in corbelled brick cornices. A moderately-pitched, side-gabled roof clad in asphalt shingles terminates the building. Three front-facade dormers punctuate the roofline. An exterior chimney is attached to the rear (southwest) facade of the building.

The asymmetrical front (northeast) facade of the building is fifteen bays in width. A two-story, four-bay, gabled pavilion projects from the facade to a depth of one bay. The first level of the pavilion comprises an open arcade. The building's entrance, which is located off-center to the south, contains a glazed replacement door. A marble plaque to the north of the entrance reads:

EMERGENCY HOSPITAL
FREDERICK, MD.
REBUILT 1934
SUPERVISION COUNTY CONS.:
C.W.A. PROJECT 52

JOHN W. HOLTON, PRES.
ROSCOE P. BROWN, V.P.
JOHN W. GROVE
A.H. DERR
AMON BURGEE
R. BRUCE MURDOCH, CLERK
W. CLINTON McSHERRY, ATTY.

JAMES A. JONES, SUPT.
ELIZABETH G. HECK, SEC.
B.O. THOMAS, M.D.

A central, segmental-arched window occupies the second level of the pavilion. Basement openings feature segmental arches.

The rear (southwest) facade of the building features several infilled openings. Because the building's site slopes downward to the north and west, the building's stone basement is exposed at the rear. A three-story brick elevator tower adjoins the building near the center of the rear (southwest) facade. Four dormers punctuate the rear slope of the roof.

The building's four-bay northeast facade features a ground-floor entrance, which is located off-center to the west. On the southeast facade, fenestration consists of one set of paired openings on each level. Half of the side-facade openings are infilled with brick. A recent steel fire escape of substantial construction is attached to the southeast facade.

The interior of the building follows a complex plan organized about a longitudinal corridor and an enclosed, central stair. Apart from some elements of the utilitarian steel stair (ca. 1934), the building's interior finishes appear to date from ca. 1995. Finishes consist of linoleum floors, wallboard or painted-concrete-block walls, wood stair rails, and acoustical-tile ceilings. The building's interior metal door casings contain recent, hollow doors with recent hardware. The full-width meeting room in the south end of the building is punctuated by four brick piers. The piers extend into the building's basement, which has been dug out to create a full-height space with a poured-concrete floor.

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The building was constructed as the Tramp House or the Colored Hospital, a component of the county almshouse. The building was added to the northwest facade of a ca. 1830 dwelling constructed originally for the almshouse superintendent (demolished ca. 1934). The addition was remodeled between 1 January 1934 and 9 July 1934 to become the county's Emergency Hospital (Thomas 1987). The county rehabilitated the building as its Extension Service Office ca. 1961 (Davis 2001). With later renovations, the building continues to house a branch of the Maryland Extension Service.

The Extension Service Building, though associated with the history Frederick County social services, does not retain integrity sufficient to illustrate its use as a hospital from the 1930s. The interior of the building has been reworked completely and retains almost no finishes or fabric from pre-1995. Exterior changes such as the sealing of the window sills in metal enclosures and the installation of vinyl replacement windows diminish the building's ability to communicate its architectural character. The building does not appear eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

8. Poultry Barn (1925)- The barn was constructed as part of the county farm operation near the south end of the almshouse complex. An inscription in the concrete slab floor indicates that the building was constructed in 1925 under the supervision of J.D. English, with Martin Flook and W. Klip [?] as carpenters. The building is in decrepit condition.

The one-story barn faces south toward the agricultural fields of the almshouse. The building occupies a rectangular footprint and is supported by a concrete wall foundation. The barn is constructed of stuccoed clay tile. The building's floor comprises two portions, composed of dirt and a concrete slab, respectively. The building terminates in a low-pitched, shed roof sheathed in corrugated metal.

The bilaterally-symmetrical, two-bay, front (south) facade of the building is open. The two entries originally featured sliding track doors (no longer extant). The side and rear facades of the building are blind.

The building was built to house the poultry production of the county farm, one part of the institution's self-sufficient agricultural program. By the early 1960s the farm had stopped producing poultry ("Montevue" 1987). The Poultry Barn, which is in decrepit condition, represents a common early-twentieth-century agricultural building type. The building appears to lack sufficient integrity for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

9. Dairy Herd Improvement Association (ca. 1930-1934; ca. 1961)- The building was constructed as the Dairy for the farm and stands on the southwest side of the complex. Three additions have extended the original two-by-one-bay building to the north, south, and west. The building was converted to house the Dairy Herd Improvement Association ca. 1961.

The one-story brick building faces east onto an asphalt drive. The building adopts an L-shaped footprint and measures four bays wide and three bays deep. A parged masonry foundation supports the building. The building is constructed of common-bond brick. Six-over-six-light, wood-frame windows occupy the building's window openings, which feature soldier-course brick lintels and concrete sills. The building terminates in a moderately-pitched, side-gabled roof clad in slate shingles. The building features boxed eaves and does not possess a chimney.

The asymmetrical front (east) facade of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association is four bays in width. Changes in front-facade brickwork indicate that each end of the two-bay building was extended by a one-bay addition (ca. 1950). The additions continue the gable-roofed form and materials of the original building. The main entry is located off-center to the south and contains a four-light, three-panel, wood door. The northern front-facade opening has been infilled with brick. Except for a shallow, cross-gabled ell extending from the rear of the south addition, the north and south additions appear identical.

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The most recent addition to the Dairy Herd Improvement association comprises a flat-roofed, concrete block ell (ca. 1961). The ell occupies most of the rear (west) facade of the building and extends to a depth of two bays. The north facade of the ell is flush with that of the main block of the building and is sheathed in a veneer of brick that carries over the appearance of the earlier construction. The overall north facade measures three bays and includes an entrance in the middle bay. The entrance opening contains a three-light, three-pane, wood door.

The interior of the building follows a complex floor plan and comprises three main rooms. The interior exhibits ca. 1960 and later finishes including linoleum flooring, painted walls, and acoustical-tile ceilings.

The building was built as the second dairy of the almshouse farm. The building may reflect the early-twentieth-century introduction of sanitation regulations that required modern masonry dairying facilities. By the early 1960s, the farm changed from raising dairy cattle to raising steers, and the County converted the building to a milk-testing laboratory for the Dairy Herd Improvement Association ca. 1961 ("The New Montevue" 1962). The Association continued to occupy the building into the late-twentieth century (Davis 2001).

The Dairy Herd Improvement Association building represents a common early-twentieth-century agricultural building type. Many contemporary masonry dairies exist on farms throughout Maryland. The building has been modified heavily and includes a ca. 1961 ell that approximately doubles the size of the original building. The building's interior finishes also appear to date from the early 1960s and later. The building, which is not a notable example of the type, appears to lack sufficient integrity.

Buildings and Structure Less than Fifty Years Old

Six buildings and structures constructed from 1961 to ca. 1995 also occupy the almshouse property in the immediate vicinity of the Montevue Hospital Complex. The buildings are: the Animal Autopsy and Disposal building (ca. 1961); a farm shed, originally the Montevue Picnic Pavilion (ca. 1961); a metal barn (ca. 1980); the Frederick County Sheriff's Department (ca. 1980); the Sheriff's Department communications tower (ca. 1980); and the Frederick County Advanced Life Support building (ca. 1993). Frederick County also has constructed three buildings between the Montevue Hospital Complex and Rosemont Avenue, straddling the remnants of the treelined almshouse drive: the Frederick County Animal Control building (ca. 1985) (Younker 2001); the Frederick County Health Department building (ca. 1991) (Younker 2001); and, the Maryland Animal Health Laboratory (ca. 1995) (Younker 2001). Several buildings, including Citizens' Nursing Home and Montevue Home (1987), occupy the former almshouse farmland north of Montevue Lane.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/	<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	

Specific dates 1830, 1870, 1934, 1961, 1987 Architect/Builder unknown

Construction dates 1830, 1870, 1879, 1934

Evaluation for:

☒ National Register ☐ Maryland Register ☐ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

Significance

The Montevue Hospital Complex represented a local government response to the housing needs of the poor and other needy citizens of Frederick County. The county constructed its third almshouse northwest of the town in 1830, and built a larger replacement complex on the same site in 1870. The 1870 institution, called Montevue Hospital, continued to house county residents until 1987 when the dominant main building was demolished. The nine surviving outbuildings of the Montevue Hospital Complex were constructed to support the residential and agricultural functions of the almshouse.

The almshouse buildings were evaluated for the qualities of local significance for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, both individually and as a district. One building, the Dead House, and one site, Potter's Field, appear to possess the qualities of local significance for listing on the Register on an individual basis. The remaining buildings have been altered heavily, particularly during a ca. 1961 renovation campaign, and each lacks integrity on an individual basis. The remaining buildings do not form a coherent district, since the dominant Victorian main building of Montevue Hospital (1870) was demolished in 1987. The absence of the originating spatial and historical focal-point diminishes the integrity of a potential district, and the group of outbuildings that survives lacks the ability to convey the significance of the property. The almshouse property also is intruded upon by five buildings and one structure less than fifty years old, most of which are unrelated to the historic almshouse function of the property.

Historical Context of the Montevue Hospital Complex

For troubled citizens whose families could not support them, eighteenth- and nineteenth-century local governments typically maintained an almshouse. Such institutions, later to be allied with reformist notions of the "county home" or "poor farm," housed a wide variety of functions. The insane, poor, destitute, old and infirm, and homeless persons all found shelter within the eighteenth- and nineteenth-century almshouse. Following an English tradition dating from the 1630s, the colonial Maryland Assembly established almshouses and workhouses for the poor in 1768 in five counties. The law named five trustees of the poor in each county. These trustees were charged with providing housing for persons in need and establishing and managing the almshouse and workhouse. Often, able-bodied residents worked on the farm attached to the almshouse. As Frederick City and County grew to include a diverse population during the early-nineteenth century, with Frederick Town incorporated as a city in 1817 (Whitmore and Cannon 1981), the numbers of citizens who were poor, paupers, transients, or mentally ill rose correspondingly.

Frederick County operated two almshouses prior to moving the institution to what is now called the Montevue Hospital Complex. The first Frederick County almshouse was built ca. 1770. Historical records differ as to the location of the first almshouse: noted local diarist Jacob Engelbrecht wrote that the almshouse was built on West Patrick Street in an area called Battletown, while Scharf wrote that the almshouse was in Bentztown. This first almshouse burned down in 1786 and the county

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built a new one at 261 and 263 West Patrick Street (Eader and Davis-Long 1996; Scharf 1882). The eighteenth-century almshouse included a potter's field, a cemetery for unclaimed bodies. By the 1820s, the building or buildings were inadequate for the growing population of residents (Eader and Davis-Long 1996).

Frederick County built a replacement almshouse northwest of the town. In December 1825, the County Levy Court ordered "that a parcel of land for the use and benefit of the Poor of Frederick County should be purchased" (Eader and Davis-Long 1996). On 2 September 1828, the Justices of the Levy Court purchased from Elias and Catherine Brunner 93 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres of a 143-acre farm to use as the site for the new almshouse and work farm (Frederick County Land Records JS 30/157). The land was located outside of Frederick City, about two miles out on the extension of Fourth Street (today Rosemont Avenue). The property cost \$5,313.75 (Frederick County Land Records JS 30/157).

John Shipman, a carpenter, designed and built the almshouse on the Brunner farm at a cost of \$13,000 (Scharf 1882). The building was constructed ca. 1830-1831. The residents of the West Patrick Street almshouse were moved to the new Frederick County Almshouse, as it was known, in 1832. Moses Worman was appointed the first overseer of the institution in its new location.

According to an 1847 fire insurance company policy, the almshouse was a two-story brick building that measured approximately 143 ft wide and 43 ft deep and contained 36 rooms (Frederick Mutual Insurance Company 1847, Policy 371). By 1847, the almshouse and county farm also included a bake-house, a stone smokehouse, a stone barn, and a combination wagon shed and corncrib (Frederick Mutual Insurance Company 1847). A potter's field also likely began when the almshouse opened. The overseer's house may have been the older farmhouse associated with the Brunner occupancy of the property. By the late 1850s, Trustees' records referred to the building simply as the "Old House." At the time, the building housed African-American residents and a carpenter's shop. Inventories describe the handcuffs and chains used to restrain some residents (Board of Trustees Meeting Notes 1849 - 1862).

During the Civil War, the almshouse farm was the site of a Union military hospital. Dr. Mischeau D. Coolridge of the United States General Hospital and Dr. John Goldsborough, the almshouse physician, negotiated the use of the property as a hospital in 1862. When the almshouse suffered an epidemic of smallpox in 1862, the Union Army offered to isolate infected almshouse residents in their field hospital. Dr. Goldsborough declined, opting to use a new addition to the "Old House" as an isolation ward. The Union Army used fifteen acres of the farm's meadows to rest and feed their horses, for which the almshouse charged \$9 per acre. The Board of Trustees of the Almshouse later estimated army damages at \$550, and the Army paid an additional \$870 for damages done to the farm's fences (Board of Trustees Meeting Notes 1863).

Frederick County constructed Montevue Hospital alongside the earlier almshouse in 1870. With the original almshouse approaching forty years old, the institution was in need of a larger facility. The new construction cost \$125,000 and had as its focus a 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ -story brick institutional residence. The new building's bilaterally-symmetrical front facade faced east toward Rosemont Avenue. Though the trustees still referred to it as the county almshouse, the new institution was christened "Montevue Hospital" (Quynn 1976). The institution opened officially in January 1871 when the residents of the old almshouse were transferred to the new facility (Board of Trustees Meeting Notes 1871). The old almshouse was demolished, though the "Old House" remained in use housing alternately African-Americans and transients.

In 1877, Dr. C. W. Chancellor, Secretary to the State Board of Health, was authorized by the governor of Maryland to inspect all public charities, reformatories, prisons and almshouse. In his report, Chancellor described the many types of buildings used as almshouses and the quality of care. Some of the almshouses were housed in dwellings; in Anne Arundel County, the Almshouse was described as an old colonial mansion. The wards were small and confined rooms. The residents were unrestrained from intermingling and, as a result, illegitimate children were born in the almshouse. Bedding and cleanliness were deplorable. In

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comparison, Bayview Asylum, the Baltimore City Almshouse was large and divided the sane from the insane, male from female, and white from colored. The hospital was clean with good bedding, although odors were lingering because of an inefficient ventilation system. The Baltimore County Almshouse was a contemporary to Montevue Hospital. The Baltimore County Almshouse was constructed in 1873 to replace the previous county almshouse that burned down. The almshouse was a four-story building. At the time of Chancellor's report, the building could accommodate 100 residents, but had a population of 110. There was ample bedding, but the facility lacked an infirmary.

The plan of the new Montevue Hospital addressed some of the problems that plagued earlier almshouses. The first inventory of the new facility listed a Trustees' room, a dining area, two kitchens, a garret, a room above the kitchen, a shanty, a cellar, four wards, and an office (Board of Trustees Meeting Notes 1871). The 1877 state survey praised Montevue for separating the genders, though the report criticized the institution for continuing to mix the sane with the insane in its wards. African-American residents, living in the 1832 overseer's house, occupied overcrowded and dirty conditions. The very sick were housed with the healthy. At the time of the report, Montevue Hospital had 222 occupants (Chancellor 1877). Through the early 1880s, the "inmate" population fluctuated between 160 and 225 (Board of Trustees Meeting Notes 1878-1891); Scharf (1882) reported 183 occupants in 1881.

The almshouse was authorized by law to put able-bodied residents to work. Historically, farms were associated with the almshouse in order to provide food for the residents and income from produce sales. During the late nineteenth century, the able-bodied residents at Montevue had to work on the farm or break stone in order to stay at the almshouse. The large farm produced pigs, chickens, dairy products, and cattle. Many of the products grown or made at the farm, including bread, fruit, vegetables, and clothing, supplied the institution and the county jail. In later years, the farm grew primarily fruits and vegetables, and the county rented out portions of the farm to private farmers (Yenger 1959). The Frederick County almshouse also included a yard where residents broke stones into pavers for local roads. A stone-breaking shed constructed ca. 1878 appeared on Sanborn Fire Insurance Company maps (Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Map 1887).

The new 1870 hospital required a complement of support outbuildings. These new outbuildings included the laundry, a dairy, and a boiler house. Construction during the succeeding decade resulted in the bake house (ca. 1879) and the adjoining meat house, a morgue called the Dead House or Death House (ca. 1878), a slaughter house (ca. 1882, not extant), a barn (1899, not extant), a carriage house or wagon shed (ca. 1902, not extant). An addition to the old overseer's house called the "Tramp House" (ca. 1892-1897) served as a "Colored Hospital" or "Negro Hospital" according to historic maps. Poultry barns were constructed 1904 and 1922 (Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Maps 1904, 1922). In 1908, Dr. Charles Goodale proposed a building that would become the "Pest House" or infirmary, a place to care for tuberculosis, small pox and other infectious cases built ca. 1910 (Board of Trustees Minute Notes 1862-1878, 1878-1891, and 1902-1908). The institution's agricultural facilities continued to increase until around the turn of the twentieth century.

By 1930, the purpose of Montevue Hospital shifted. In 1913, the problem of the overcrowded hospital was partially relieved with the opening of the Springfield State Hospital and the Crownsville State Hospital. The insane residents were sent to both facilities: the white residents were taken to Springfield and the African-American residents were taken to Crownsville (Montevue Home 1961). The New Deal era saw a number of laws passed concerning government social services, with work agencies and short-time prison sentences reducing the number of vagrants. Social agencies and institutions reduced the number of children staying at the almshouse. A new law set a maximum ninety days for a child staying at the almshouse. Relief agencies, pension plans, or private hospitals took care of the "respectable aged poor" (Maryland Commission on Almshouses 1931). Montevue Hospital continued to provide shelter for transients, the elderly poor, and those in need of medical care, especially African-Americans (Montevue 1961).

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Montevue Hospital Complex
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 3

In 1934, the Montevue's head physician, Dr. B. O. Thomas, proposed to the Board of Trustees to establish a proper medical hospital at Montevue. Using money from the county, the almshouse, and the Civil Works Administration, the old "Tramp House" was rehabilitated into a hospital. The project began in January 1934, and the hospital was finished in June 1934. The "Emergency Hospital" had 50 beds, four cribs, ten bassinets, and an operating room. The beds were divided into four wards by race and gender. Dr. Thomas was given the job of Doctor-in-charge of the Emergency Hospital (Board of Trustees Meeting Notes 1934). The hospital was closed in the 1950s because it was unable to meet new hospital standards that required an up-to-date laboratory and an X-ray department. The Emergency Hospital became an infirmary for Montevue Home (Montevue 1961).

Montevue's farm and the medical facilities were de-emphasized in the latter half of the twentieth century. During the early 1960s, Frederick County changed the roles of many of the outbuildings and began constructing non-almshouse-related buildings on the property. For example, the old Bake House/Meat House was rehabilitated into the County's animal testing laboratory. By 1984, the almshouse had stopped consuming food from the farm, though local farmers continued to rent the land. During the 1980s, the Frederick County Commissioners estimated that the cost of a new building would be less than maintenance of the old almshouse. The commissioners voted to construct a new home north of the old institution on former almshouse farmland. In 1987, the Montevue Hospital building (1870) was demolished and the residents moved to the new Montevue Home. Since that time, the County has continued to build a number of new government-related buildings on the former Montevue property.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. F-3-188

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- Brugger, Robert J.
1988 *Maryland: A Middle Temperament 1634-1980*. Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Maryland.
- Chancellor, C.W.
1877 Report on the public charities, reformatories, prisons, and almshouses of the State of Maryland. Baughman Brothers, Frederick, Maryland.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 88.5 acres
Acreage of historical setting 88.25 acres
Quadrangle name Frederick Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries of the Montevue Hospital Complex south of Montevue Lane encompass a portion of the historic property of the Frederick County almshouse. The north boundary of the complex follows the south side of Montevue Lane. At a point north of the east border of the Potter's Field, the boundary turns south to define the east edge of the complex, continuing to the south edge of the Potter's Field. The border then follows the south edge of the Potter's Field, continuing westward to a point south of the west side of the Dairy. The boundary turns north to define the west edge of the complex, joining the north boundary at Montevue Lane.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Scott Meacham, Architectural Historian, and Nathaniel Patch, Historian		
organization	R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.	date	July 2001
street & number	241 East Fourth Street, Suite 100	telephone	301-694-0428
city or town	Frederick	state	MD

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

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Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

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Davis, Janet

2001 Letter to Lee Koontz, Director of Management Services. 17 March 2001.

Eader, Edith Olivia, and Trudie Davis-Long, compilers

1996 *The Jacob Engelbrecht Property and Almshouse Ledgers.* Paw Prints, Monrovia, Maryland.

1995 *The Jacob Engelbrecht Death Ledger of Frederick County, Maryland, 1820-1890.* Paw Prints, Monrovia, Maryland.

Frederick County Land Records, Frederick County Courthouse, Frederick, Maryland.

Frederick Mutual Insurance Company

1847 Fire Insurance Policy issued to Levy Court of Frederick Count. Records held by company.

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1962 "The New Montevue." 25 July 1962.

Heaton, Francine, Montevue Home Employee

2001 Personal Communication 21 June

Lake, D. J.

1873 *Atlas of Frederick County Maryland.* C.O. Titus and Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

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1931 *Report of the commissions appointed to investigate the almshouses on the western shore and eastern shore to the General assembly of 1931.* Baltimore, Maryland.

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1961 Frederick, Maryland. Pamphlet published by institution.

Montevue Home

1987 Dedication Booklet. Frederick, Maryland.

Montevue Hospital Records

1857-1878	Accounts Payable.
1878-1883	Accounts Payable.
1878-1889	Accounts Payable.
1900-1906	Accounts Payable.
1903-1913	Accounts Payable.
1908-1912	Accounts Payable.
1929-1930	Accounts Payable.
1883-1900	Beef Account.
1927-1928	Contents.
1935-1936	Contents.
1937	Contents.
1938	Contents.

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Continuation Sheet

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1892-1902	Expenditures for Equipment and Services.
1884-1890	Inmates Committed by Court Order.
1849-1862	Minutes of the Board of Trustees of Frederick County Almshouse.
1862-1878	Minutes of the Board of Trustees of Frederick County Almshouse.
1878-1890	Minutes of the Board of Trustees of Montevue Hospital.
1902-1908	Minutes of the Board of Charities and Corrections.
1913-1924	Minutes of the Board of Charities and Corrections.
1924-1944	Minutes of the Board of Charities and Corrections.
1944-1954	Minutes of the Board of Charities and Corrections.
1941	Montevue Appropriations.
1947-1952	Narcotic Journal.
1952	Narcotic Journal.
1953-1954	Narcotic Journal.
1901-1913	Total Inmates and Tramps.
1871-1913	The List of Inmates who Died at Montevue.

Quynn, William, editor

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Sanborn Fire Insurance Company

1887, 1892, 1897, 1904, 1911, 1922, 1930, 1934, and 1954 Fire Insurance Maps of Frederick City, Maryland. Geograph and Map Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

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Yenger, Nick

1959 Recollections from a newspaper article, dated 25 April 1959, found in the Frederick County Historical Society.

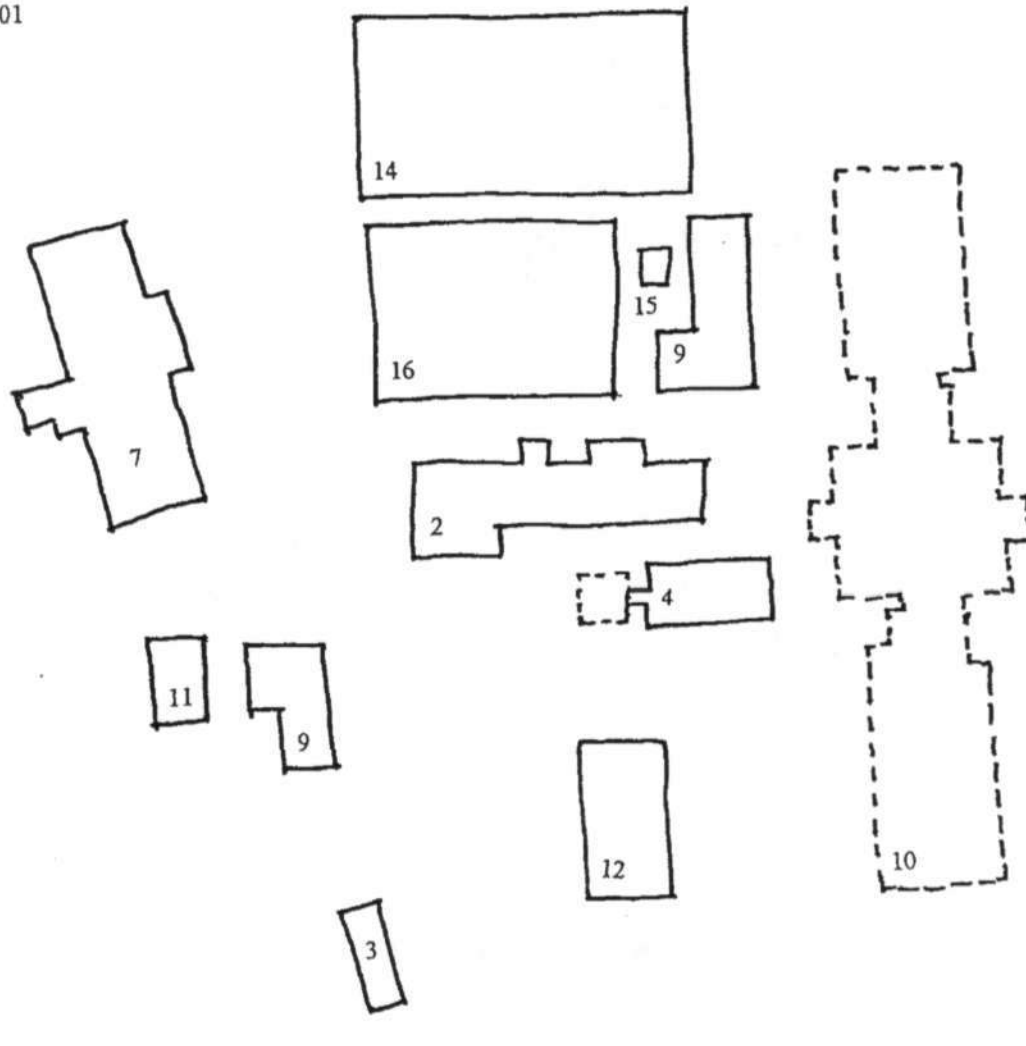
Yunker, Steve

2001 Interview. 27 June 2001 with Scott Meacham and Nathaniel Patch.

Montevue Lane

Montevue Hospital Complex
 Frederick, Md.

Sketch Map July 2001
 No Scale



Montevue Hospital Complex

1. Dairy
2. Department of Agriculture Laboratory (Bake House and Meat House)
3. Storage Cellar
4. Boiler House
5. Death House and Potters' Field
6. Laundry
7. Extension Service Building (Emergency Hospital)
8. Poultry Barn
9. Dairy Herd Improvement Association (Dairy)

Montevue Hospital Main Building

10. Footprint of main building, not extant (parking lot)

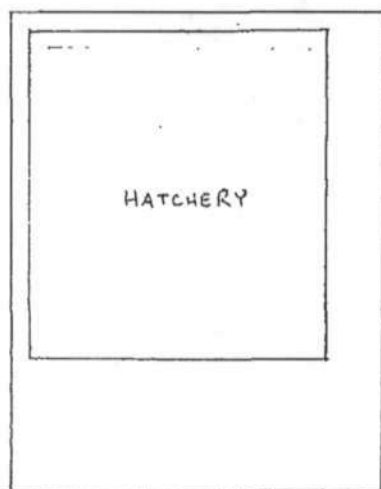
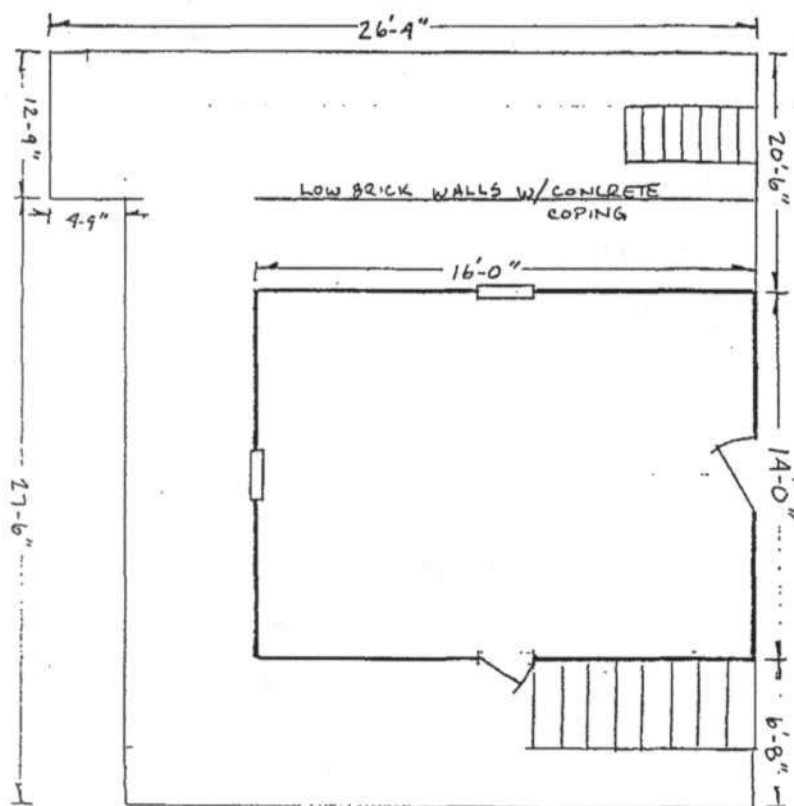
Buildings and Structure Less than Fifty Years Old

11. Animal Autopsy and Disposal
12. Farm Shed (Montevue Picnic Pavilion)
13. Metal Barn
14. Frederick County Sheriff's Department
15. Sheriff's Department communications tower
16. Frederick County Advanced Life Support

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Name Montevue Hospital Complex
Frederick County, Maryland
First Floor Sketch Plan



DAIRY

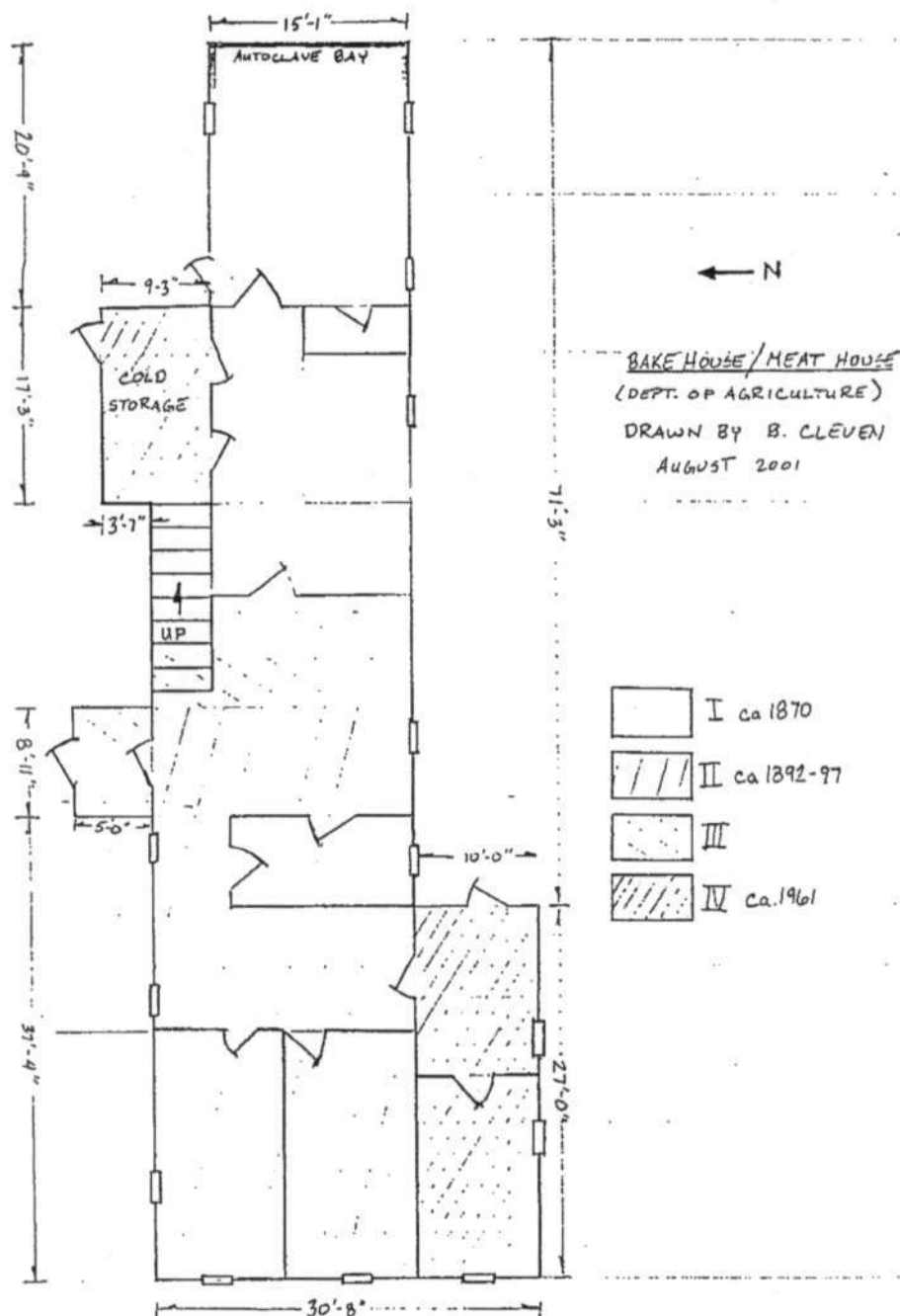
DRAWN BY B. CLEVEN

AUGUST 2001

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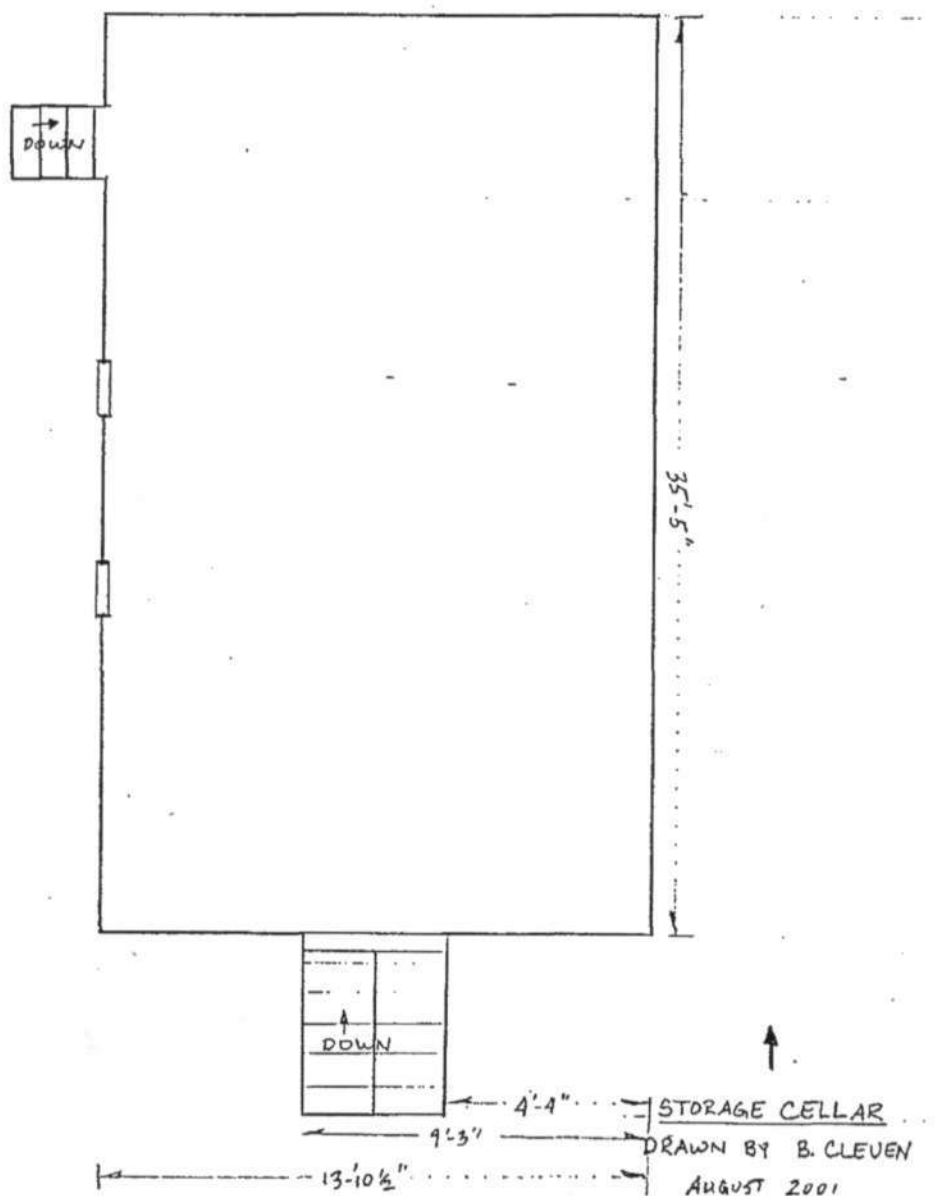
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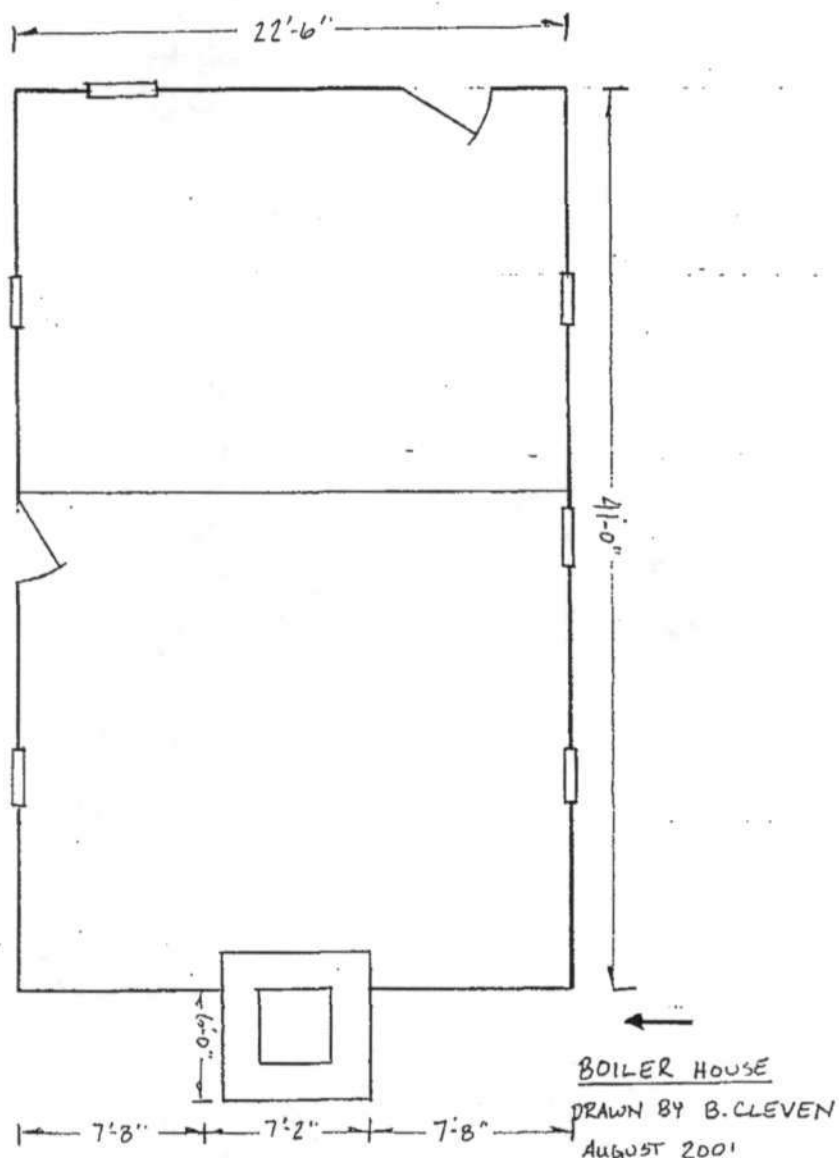
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Frederick County, Maryland
First Floor Sketch Plan



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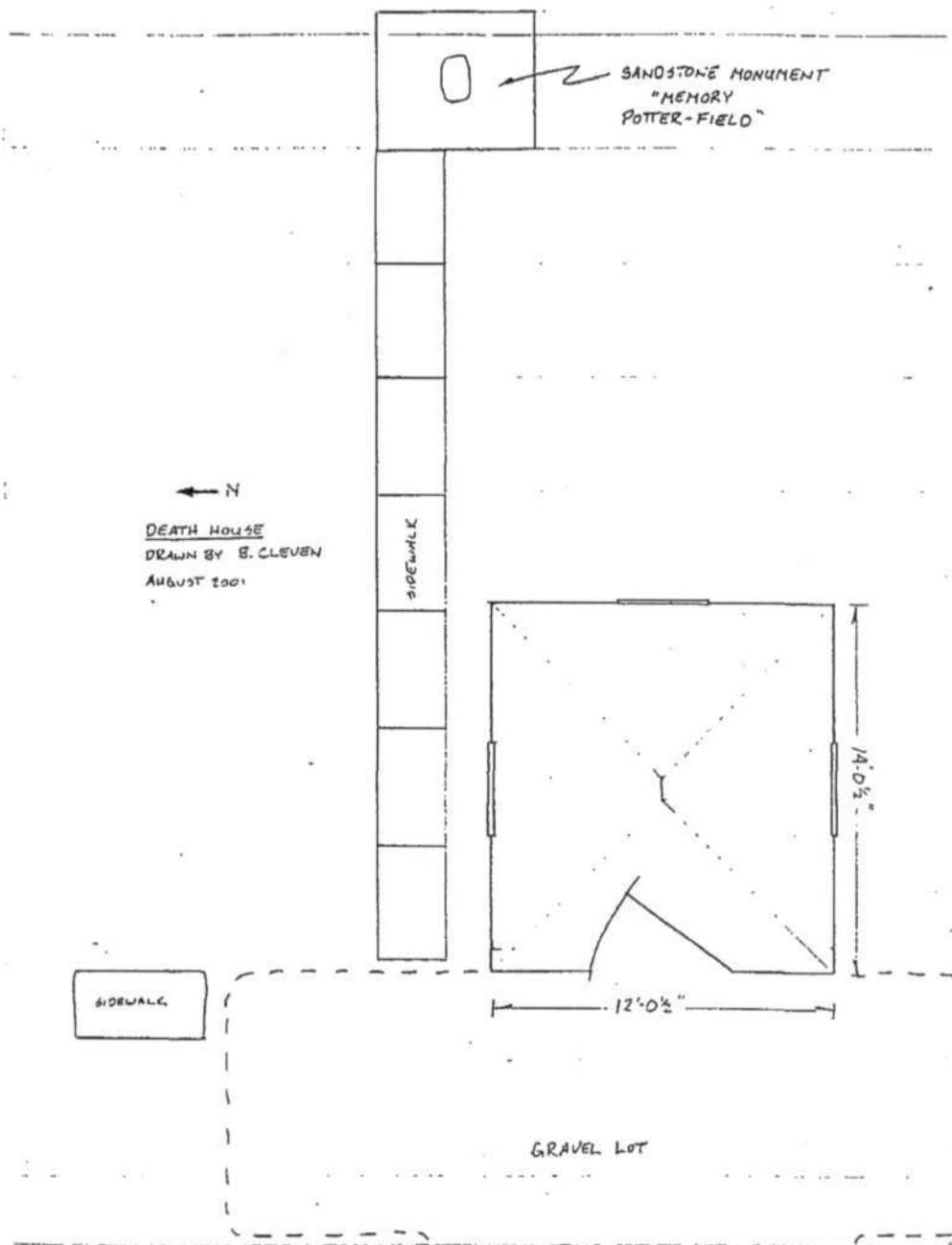
Name Montevue Hospital Complex
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First Floor Sketch Plan



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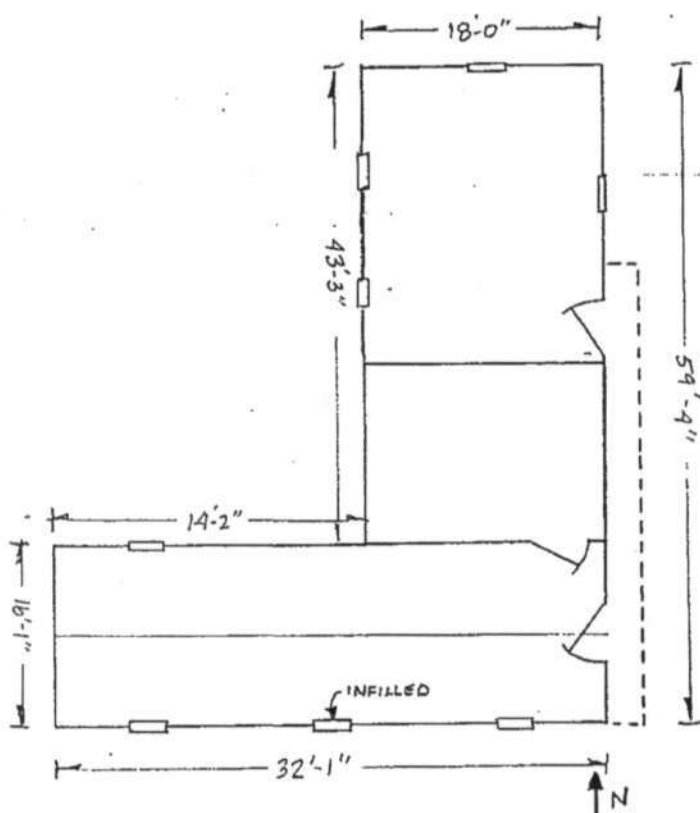
Name Montevue Hospital Complex
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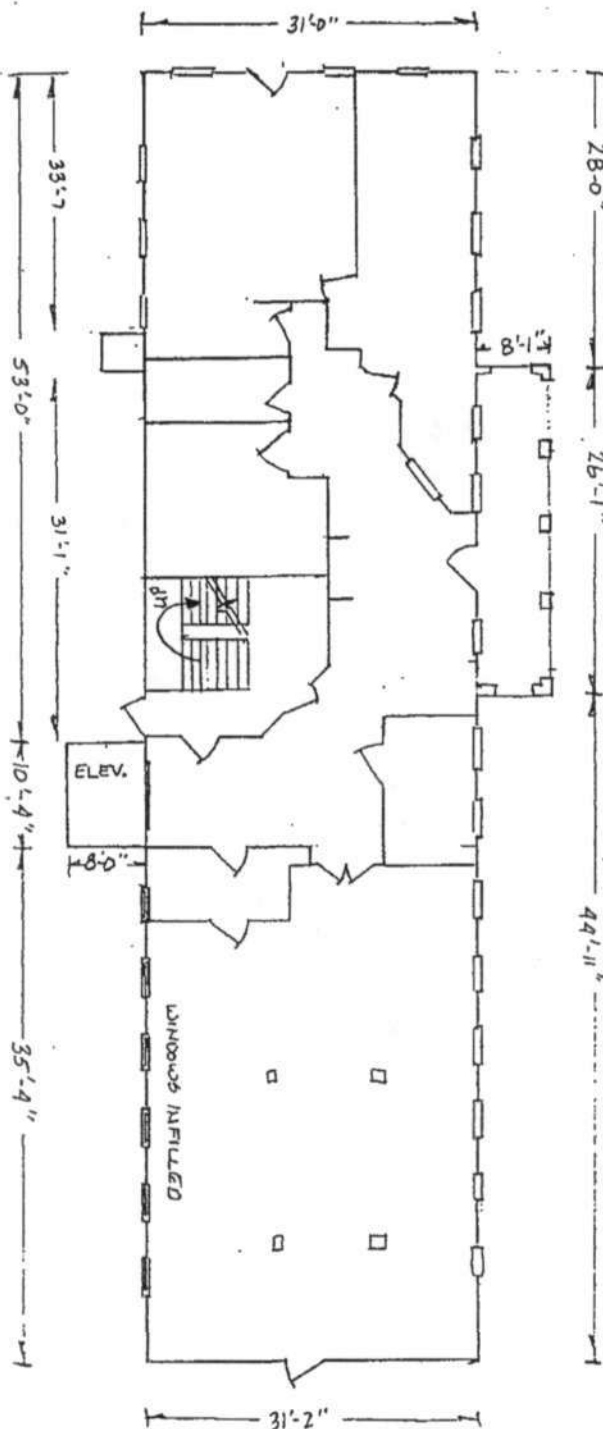
LAUNDRY

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Name Montevue Hospital Complex
Frederick County, Maryland
First Floor Sketch Plan

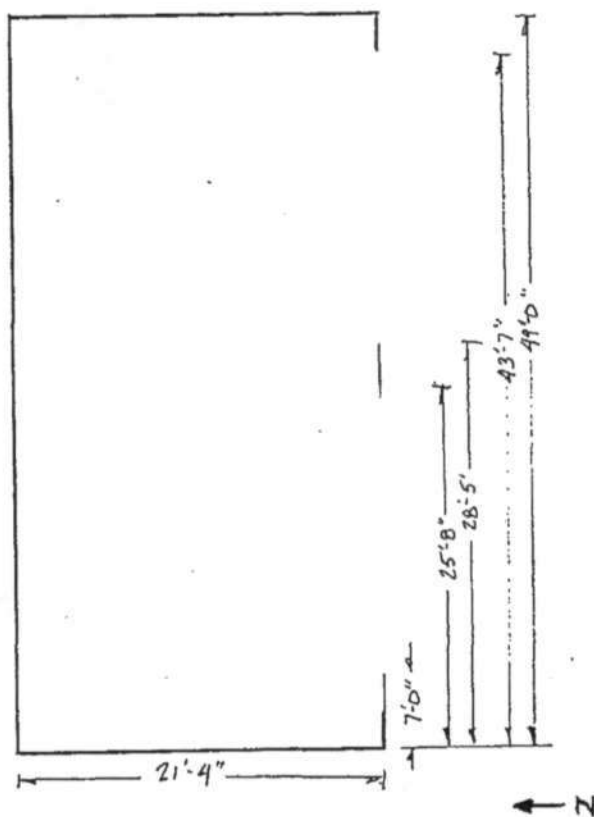


EMERGENCY HOSPITAL
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First Floor Sketch Plan



POULTRY BARN

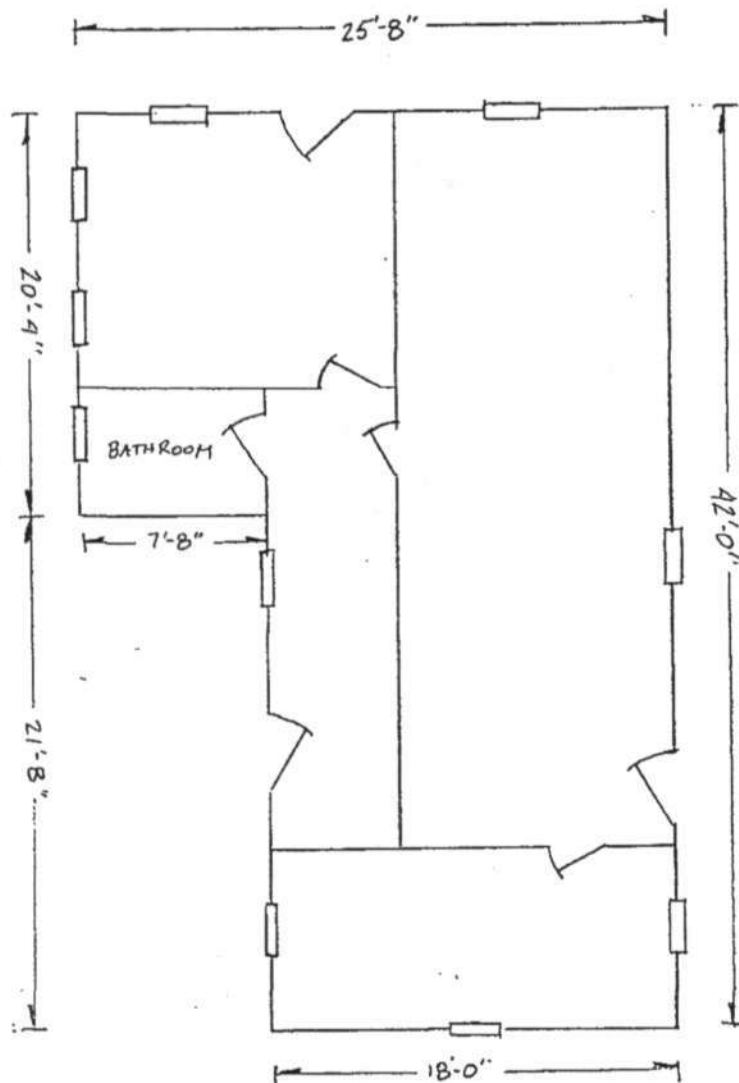
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Name Montevue Hospital Complex
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First Floor Sketch Plan

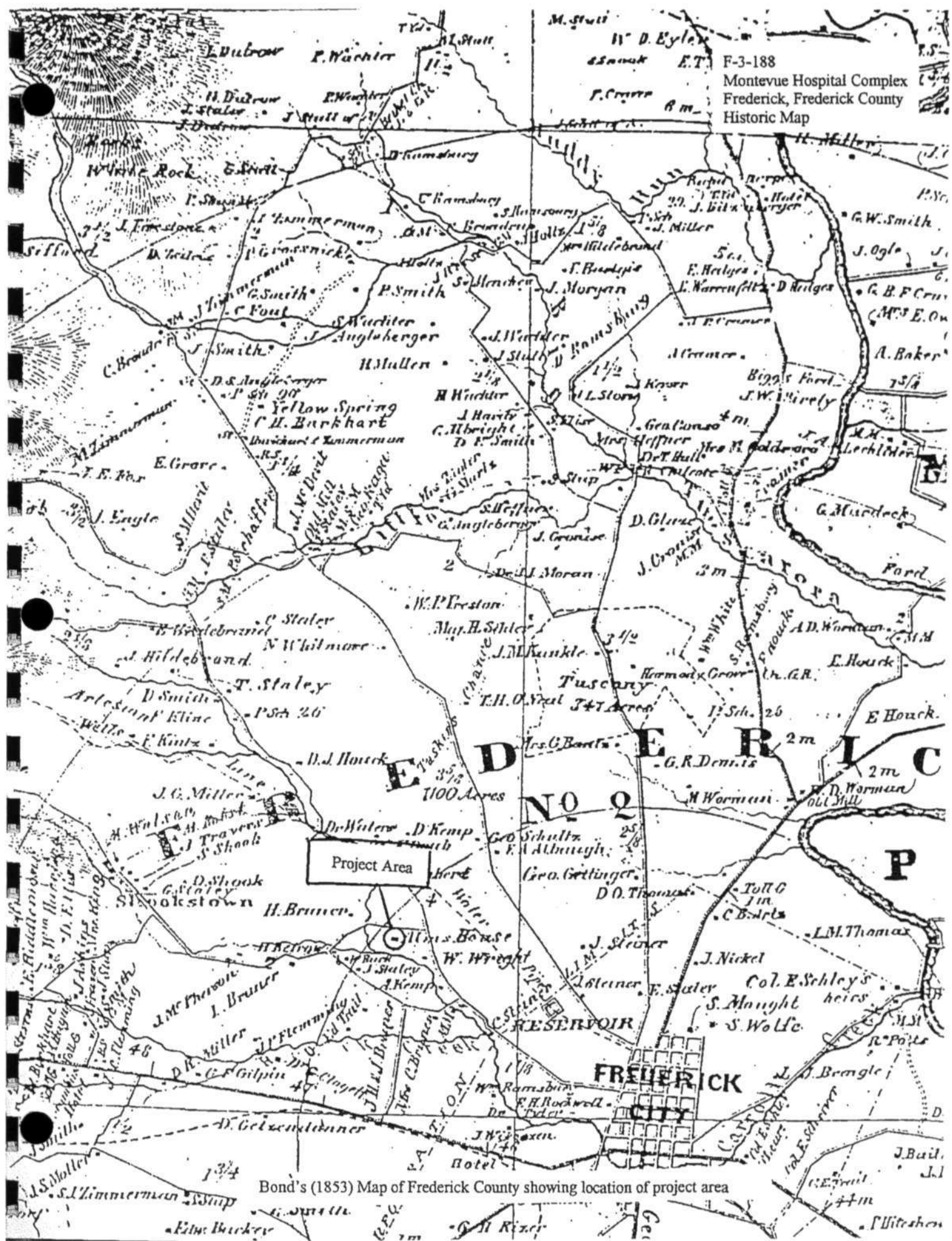


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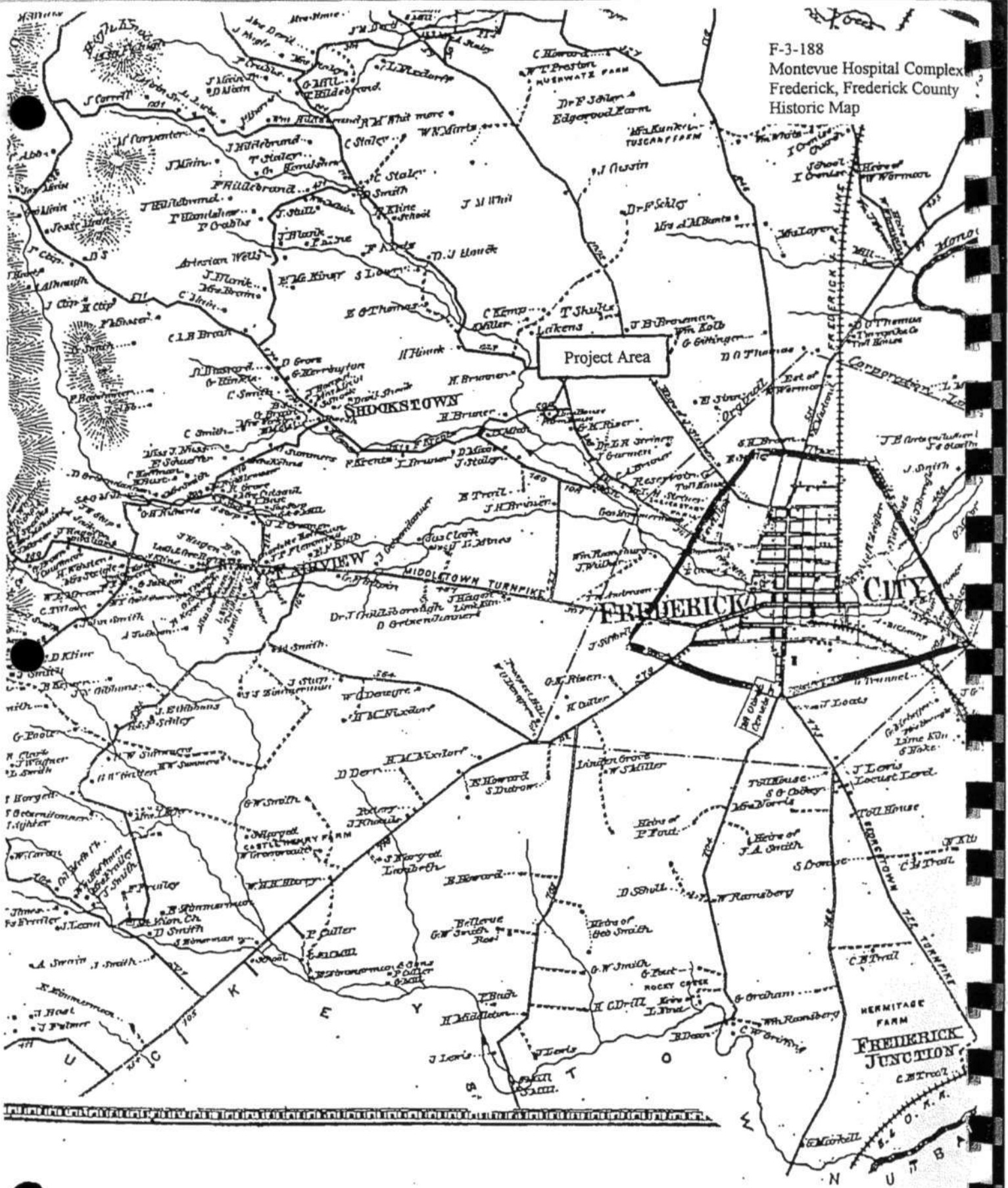
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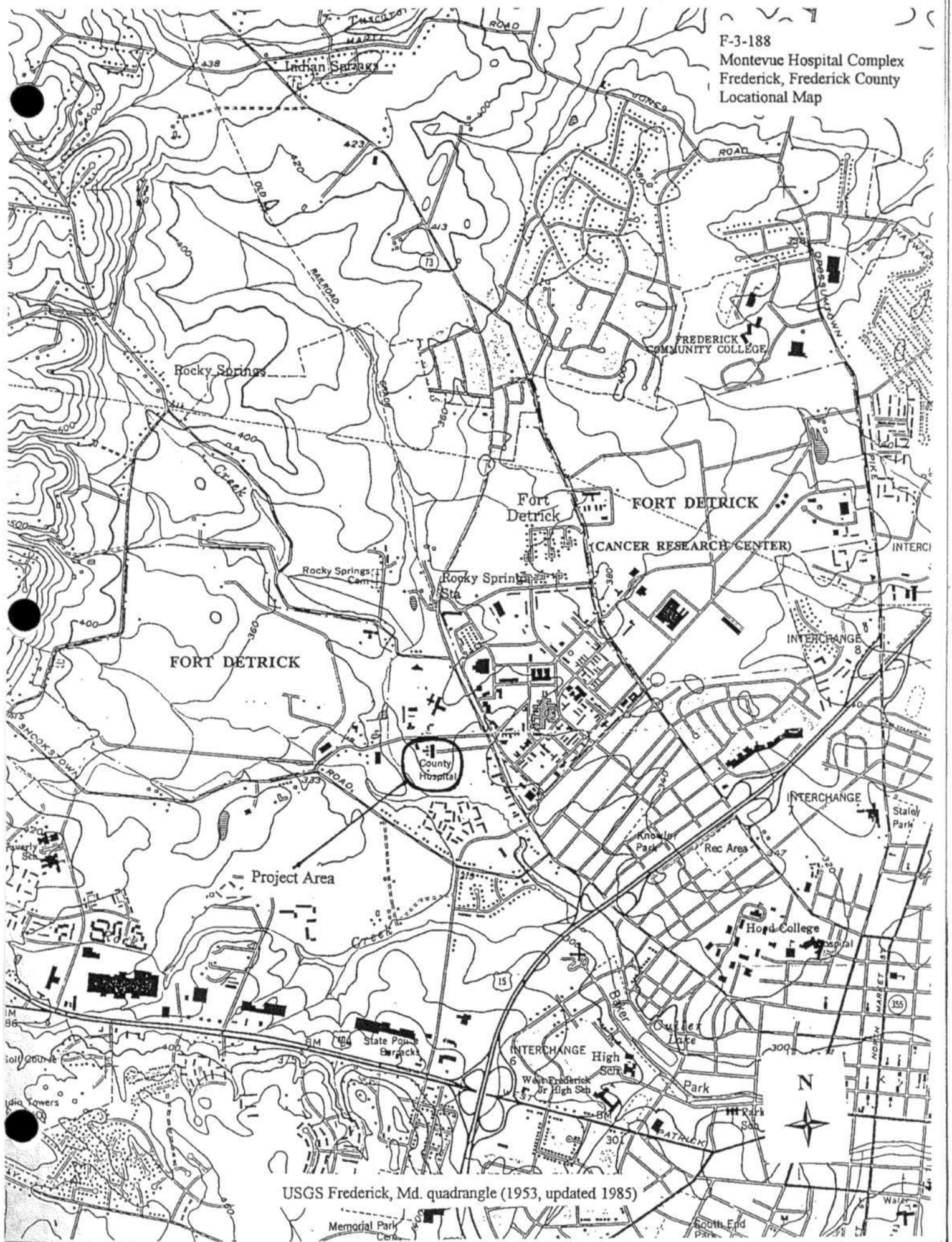
Bond's (1853) Map of Frederick County showing location of project area

F-3-188
 Montevue Hospital Complex
 Frederick, Frederick County
 Historic Map



Lake's (1873) Atlas of Frederick County showing location of project area

F-3-188
 Montevue Hospital Complex
 Frederick, Frederick County
 Locational Map



USGS Frederick, Md. quadrangle (1953, updated 1985)